N. H. Negroes

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THE OPEN GATE

HARTFORD NEWS NEW HAVEN - ANSONIA

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WHY RENTS RAISED IN N.H. PROJECTS?

(Story on Page 2)

NEGRO COPS TRANSFERRED

NEGRO ALL STATE HOOP TEAMS ANNOUNCED BY OPEN GATE

(Story on Page 6)

Open Gate Seeks Dixwell Cleaning Permit From Mayor Lee

Negro Policemen Assigned To Station Two

Another "first" for the Negro people in New Haven occurred on April 2nd when two Negro policemen reported for duty at Station two on Sherman Parkway.

Both Ronald Stuckey and Charles Grady had joined the force three years ago and compiled fine service records. Stuckey twice received commendations for nabbing would be automobile thiefs, while Grady also received a commenda-

The assignment of the officers Station Two fulfills a promise which Police Chief Francis V. McManus made to the Open Gate several weeks ago. Until now, no Negro policemen had ever been assigned to this station.

Meanwile, two young Negro reruits have finished their training, and are joining the force and assigned to other areas.

The Open Gate is now looking forward to the fulfillment of another statement made by Chief McManus to the effect that there will be Negro police sergeants as soon as they qualify. Three men have taken the necessary civil service exams, Burton Guilford, Charles Patterson, and another officer. Perhaps soon after the results of there tests are made known, there will be at least one Negro sergeant.

RONALD STUCKEY

N.A.L.C. RECEIVES DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINTS

On March 6, 1961, President John F. Kennedy signed Executive Order 10925. On April 7, 1961, this executive order became law. The purpose of this law is to do away with discrimination by all companies receiving government contracts. This law HAS TEETH. Any company which does not comply with this law can lose all of its government contracts.

President Kennedy signed Executive Order 10925 because he knew that the Northern Republicans would join forces with the Dixicrats to kill any bill he tried to

(Continued on Page 2)

Ansonia's Cutie Pie Of The Week

By D. T. MURRAY

Ansonia's Cutie Pie of the Week is little Miss Allison R. Byrd, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Byrd of 33 Star Street, in Ansonia. Miss Allison was six months old April 5, 1962. She is presently in a Popularity Contest sponsored by the Connecticut State Association of Women's Clubs, Ansonia, Chapter. The finals will be held Saturday, June 9, 1962. Mr. Jeff Dyous, publisher-founder of the "Open Gate News" was the first person to buy a book of votes for "Miss Cutie Pie." Allison seems to be saying—"I'm a cinch to win if you vote for me." "You will vote for me!!!! You're a doll."

Publisher Jeff Dyous and CORE President Blyden Jackson, in a meeting with a National CORE Leader from New York last week, two days before Blyden's misfortune, came up with an idea which we thought would be good for all people, especially the taxpaying citizens in the Dixwell Community.

If you live or have been around that community, you know just what we mean when we say that from Eaton Street to Foote Street on Dixwell Avenue is not a beautiful sight when you stop to look at the paper and trash that is in the street. Our purpose is good. It is not to establish any contrary conditions, but to inspire the youths and elders of that community. If, by chance, we could get Mayor Richard C. Lee and the Democrats that the Negroes claim they put in office to cooperate with us and to place rubbish cans — at least four per block on both sides of the street — then the neighbors might put their rubbish in the containers provided instead of in the street; therefore, giving more inspiration to the members of the neighborhood.

(Continued on Page 2)

Spring Is Here!

SPRING IS HERE! New Haven's only "cowboy", James Preston, of 176 Ashmun Street, starting his season of entertaining the children with his music. Preston came to New Haven in 1940 from Wheeling, West Virginia, and originally used a homemade guitar.

Cleaning Permit

(Continued from Page 1)

Last Monday, the Open Gate called upon the Police Department seeking a permit for an emergency parking order in those blocks mentioned on Saturday, April 14, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This would be in order to get as many citizens as possible to come out and bring their own brooms along with The Open Gate and CORE to take part in removing the rubbish from the streets.

Assistant Chief Simon Reising said that he did not have the authority to give such an order. Chief Francis McManus was out at the time due to his recent ill health. We were informed by his assistant that he would contact the Chief and then call us. Tuesday, Asst. Chief Reising called and said that Chief McManus had asked him to inform the Open Gate that the only way he could give this permission was with Orders from Mayor Lee.

In the near future, the Open Gate plans to call upon Mayor Richard C. Lee — but not alone, for we plead to the tax-paying citizens in New Haven to start your letters flowing in to the Mayor's office now, asking him to make it possible for us to have these plans carried out.

Please contact The Open Gate News if you are interested in helping to prepare for a brighter, cleaner, more impressive Dixwell Community.

RENTS INCREASED AT TWO PROJECTS

Some 600 families who live at the Brookside and McConaughy Terrace housing projects received some unwelcome mail on March 29 from the New Haven Housing Authority. The letters were formal announcements of increases in rent for residents at the two projects. They go into effect on May 1st.

The biggest boosts, seven dollars, are at Brookside. Four-bedroom units now renting at $83 a month will go up to $90. Three-bedroom apartments will be raised from $80 to $87. Other three-bedroom units, now renting at $77, will now cost $82.

The two-bedroom units will jump from $72 to $79. Other two-bedroom apartments currently costing $69 will be raised to $75.

At McConaughy, the greatest increase will be five dollars, as opposed to the seven dollars at Brookside. The three-bedroom apartments will increase from $78 to $83. The two-bedroom units from $67 to $72 and $70 to $75. The one-bedroom units willl be raised from $54 to $58 a month.

According to Robert T. Wolfe, director of the New Haven Housing Authority, the increases were made necessary because of "increased costs of materials and services."

Wolfe pointed out that this will be the first increase in rent at these projects in four years. The rents include heat, and at Brookside also include hot water.

VISITING JAZZ MAN. Famous vibe player, Milt Jackson, right, a member of the Modern Jazz Quartet, is shown visiting with his cousin, Thomas H. Hall, at Hall's Record Shop on Main Street in Hartford. Hall is now a leading New England distributor of Negro records.

THE VICE PRESIDENT

LETTER

February 28, 1962

Dear Mr. Fernandez:

Thank you very much for your letter. As you know, I am deeply interested in the question that you raise and I certainly intend to do everything that I can to eliminate unfairness and inequities.

I am going to ask Mr. Holleman, the Executive Vice-Chairman of the Committee, to get in touch with you and I certainly hope we can find ways and means of assuring equality of treatment for all people regardless of race, creed, color or national origin.

Sincerely,
Lyndon B. Johnson

Mr. John M. Fernandez
President
Negro American Labor Council
of Connecticut
17 Woodside Path
West Haven 16, Conn.

N.A.L.C. Receives

(Continued from Page 1)

get Congres to pass which would give all citizens of this country equal economic opportunity.

President Kennedy's next task was to do away with the "Do Nothing" Republican committee and replace it with the President's Committee on Equal Employment Opportunity."

The President chose vice-President Lyndon Johnson to chair this committee and Arthur Goldberg as co-chairman.

Ever since this committee was formed the Negro American Labor Council of Connecticut has been carrying on a steady correspondence with Vice-President Johnson. The N.A.L.C. of Connecticut believes that Johnson is most sincere in his desire to do away with the discrimination in employment suffered by Negroes and other non-white citizens.

Because of the many complaints of discrimination sent to the committee by the N.A.L.C., members of the President's Committee have visited many plants in this area. Because of their efforts many changes have taken place. Through the efforts of Vice-President oJhnson, the N.A.L.C. of Connecticut will receive copies of compliance reports as they are filed with the President's Committee by companies in this area. This will be an invaluable aid to the N.A.L.C. in combating discrimination in employment.

The N.A.L.C., however, feels that all this is useless unless we, in the words of labor secretary Goldberg, "do all we can to help ourselves." In order to do this the N.A.L.C. must be notified at once of any incident of discrimination in employment. President Kennedy has given us a long awaited tool. Let's use it. It works like a charm.

We of the Open Gate stand ready to do our duty in this battle to bring about full equality in employment to our people. If you know of any plant receiving government contracts (most of them are) which has a policy of discriminating in hiring or up-grading, please let us know.

If we work together, we can give our children and our grandchildren the kind of world we would like them to live in. We will be very happy to pass your complaints on to the N.A.L.C. In the words of A. Phillip Randolph, "now is the time."

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COOPER HONORED AT TESTIMONIAL DINNER

A Banquet was held Saturday, March 31, 1962, at the Clinton A.M.E. Zion Church Dining Hall, Ansonia, Conn., honoring the Chairman of the Church's Trustee Board, Mr. Willie Cooper. Mr. Cooper has served as a member of the Board for over 10 years and as its Chairman for 7 years. He is a main figure in the church and works sincerely doing the little things that mean a lot. Mr. Cooper is a Class Leader in his Church heading about 25 members and also is the Superintendent of the Sunday School. He does not send his children to Church — he takes them.

He has done such an outstanding job in his church, the church's neighborhood and his own community that his Board thought honoring him was the best way to give him his flowers while he could still smell them.

The Boards present honoring him were: Sunday School, represented by Mrs. Etharline Goldson; Willing Workers, represented by Mrs. Bernice Russom; The Senior Choir, represented by Mr. James Brown; The Missionary Society, represented by Mrs. Elizabeth Johnson; The Sr. Usher Board, represented by Mrs. Gladys Keels; The Parsonage Club, represented by Mrs. Lottie Tinney, The Men's Club, represented by Mr. Percy Tucker.

Mr. Cooper received a Bond from a group of clubs in the Church and a check from the Trustees Board.

Others present speaking in honor of Mr. Cooper were: Mr. Rufus Vaughn of New Haven, Mr. John Gatison, of Ansonia, and Mr. J. Oscar Adamson.

Mr. Cooper is the father of 4 children, William Ashley, Brian Anthony, Francis Lionel, Darlene Elizabeth — and 2 foster children, Gerald and Harvey Phillips. His wife is the former Carrie Byrd. They have a home at 15 Blacks Hills Road, Shelton, Conn.

Further Desegregation In New Orleans

Starting with the opening of school next fall in New Orleans, segregation will be eliminated through the sixth grade.

U.S. District Judge J. Skelly Wright ordered the desegregation and threw out the pupil placement law on April 3rd. The placement law gave the school board the right to test students and assign them, presumably on the basis of test scores, to particular schools.

DIXWELL AREA TO HAVE ONE DAY HEALTH PROGRAM

There used to be a song which said "I don't want to get well! I don't want to get well! I'm in love with a beautiful nurse". That's alright in song and story but most folks want and need to be healthy. So if you are normal and love **yourself**, you ought to attend this one day health program presented by the Health Commission of the Dixwell Community Council aided by many of the city's health agencies and some of the community's non health agencies. The whole of the participating agencies include: 1. Winchester School; 2. New Haven Department of Education; 3. The Dixwell Area Community Council; 4. The New Haven Health Department; 5. State Department of Health; 6. The New Haven Area Tuberculosis and Health Association; 7. National Association for the Prevention of Blindness; 8. New Haven Branch of the American Cancer Society; 9. Connecticut Dairy and Food Council; 10. New Haven Branch of the American Red Cross; 11. New Haven Visiting Nurse Association; 12. New Haven Heart Association.

The idea got started with the thinking of the sixth grade children in Winchester School. The combined sixth grades urged that such a program be sponsored because they found out that the health of the Dixwell community is not nearly as good as that in the other areas of our city. They wanted Dixwell to be first in health as it is in community spirit. They are very excited about the program and even wrote President Kennedy in Washington about it.

This program is to be held Wednesday, April 18, 1962. It is to be held in Winchester School on Gregory St. and last from 1:00 p.m. to 9 p.m.

This program is called the Multi-phasic Health Screening Program, a big name which just means we are trying to separate the sheep from the goats. The sheep are the healthy ones and the goats the unhealthy ones. So if you are suspicious you might be a goat and unhealthy, come out and take the test so if that is the situation, we can try to make you healthy so you'll be a sheep and be healthy O.K.?

The tests which will be given are 1. Chest x-ray — heart and lungs; 2. Height and Weight; 3. Blood pressure and E.K.G. (heart test); 4. Blood test for Syphilis (the pox); 5. Blood sugar for Diabetes; 6. Hemoglobin for Anemia (Do you have tired blood?); 7. Microscopic test for cancer of the womb; 8. Eye test for seeing and another to test for a disease of the eye called Glaucoma; 9. Test for hearing; 10. Dental examination; 11. Polio Shots.

If you were to pay for all these tests in the offices or laboratory they would cost you $60.00 or more. Tell me, do you know anybody who is giving away sixty dollars now-a-days? Man—it's a bargain!

Fred F. Smith, M.D.

The Ambitious Young Man

WORKING WITH A SMILE is Ruben Lee, 16, of 69 Eastern Circle New Haven. He is a very ambitious young man. He's a Junior at the Wilbur L. Cross High School and a member of the Art Club. He likes basketball, swimming and many other sports. Ruben is a part-time salesman at Nick's Grocery Store, 105 Dixwell Ave. When he was asked if he likes his job, he replied, "So much so that I want to establish my own business some day."

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EDITORIAL

A Proposed Manifesto For N.H. Negroes

WE ACCUSE:

The Democratic and Republican parties of a flagrant violation of the elementary democratic rights of our people.

> The defeat of the Fair Housing Ordinance by a coalition of Northern Democrats and Northern Republicans has left us angry, bitter, and disillusioned. The passage of the ordinance would have been a victory for democracy everywhere — its defeat was a triumph for racist and reactionary forces.

The leadership of the two parties, specifically: Mayor Lee, John Golden, Arthur Barbieri, Henry Townshend, Henry deVita.

> We will not buy the argument that the parties, **as parties,** are not responsible for this crushing endorsement of bigotry. In elections, the parties give lip-service to all progressive actions, but when the chips are down, they promptly shift the blame to the Aldermen. But parties consist of individuals, and a party which tries to evade its responsibility for the actions of its members does not warrant further support.

WE HEREBY DECLARE:

We have lost a battle—we have not lost the war for integration, for better housing, for equal employment and educational opportunities for ourselves and our children. The mass of black people is in motion everywhere in the world. Does a group of racist petty politicians think they can stop us? Therefore, it is incumbent on us to proclaim:

OUR PROGRAM

1. **Independent Political Action:** The major parties have once more indicated their callous contempt for rights already guaranteed in the Constitution. We warn the major party politicians: don't come into our wards at election time, giving us "cocktail sips" and fake promises. We shall create political entities, in alliance with our natural white allies in the labor movement, compl[redacted]nt of the major parties.

2. **Tenants' Unions.** Your vote to keep us "in our place", that is, in our ghettoes, at a time when redevelopment is creating enormous pressure on us to leave the ghetto, compels us to create an organization at grass roots level to defend the economic interests of the slum dweller, both black and white. In this endeavor, we shall seek the cooperation of the labor movement.

3. **Strengthening the Labor Movement.** Even with the passage of the Fair Housing Ordinance, the majority of Negroes could not take advantage of the law because of our **low income.** What is desperately needed for our people is a **redistribution of wealth.** Our people have been low-paid beasts of burden for the creation of high incomes for the business and professional classes in New Haven. The existing historic instrument for such a redistribution is the union movement and we intend to rally our people into a vigorous and militant union movement.

TO ALL BLACK AND WHITE MILITANTS

If you agree with our program and want **action now** to achieve it, join us for the challenging struggles to make it a reality. Contact any one of the following organizations which have now united to create the:

INDEPENDENT POLITICAL ACTION COUNCIL
John Barber, NAACP
Blyden Jackson, CORE
Shepherd Brock, Civil Rights Committee of AFL-CIO
Henry Coleman, Dixwell Community Council
James E. Gibbs, Negro American Labor Council
Reverend Ewell Hopkins, Dixwell Ministers Alliance
Proposed by: William Winnick

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A Letter From Mississippi

The following letter was sent Jeff Dyous, Publisher of the Open Gate, by Rev. Robert L.T. Smith, candidate for Congress, from Jackson, Mississippi.

Dear Mr. Dyous:

It was a great pleasure to meet you at Yale. The experience was certainly one that I shall long remember. It was so unusual to see the patience and interest shown by all who were present at that late hour of the night. I spent the night in the home of Rev. Byers, and they treated me with every courtesy.

We are pursuing our effort here to get the ballot. The kind of reception that you gave us there gives us the kind of moral strength that is needed. For this, we are most grateful.

Yours for human dignity for all,
Rev. Robert L. T. Smith
1072 Lynch Street, Room 10
Jackson, Mississippi

JUST JAZZIN'

By D. T. Murray

It is a terrible situation when a jazz musician has to die in order to merit acclaim from the critics, but this seems to be the trend.

Let's check off the names of some Negro jazz musicians, who are deceased and who gave their lives to jazz: Charlie Parker, Sidney Bechet, Clifford Brown, Billie Holiday, Chick Webb, Wardell Gray, Lester Young, Oran Page, Richie Powell, Jelly Roll Morton, Alfonse Picou, Bunk Johnson, Fats Waller, Art Tatum, Lester Young, Jimmy Blanton, Oscar Pettiford, Lem Winchester, Charlie Christain, Fletcher Henderson, Ernie Wilkins and Doug Watkins.

I often wonder how much the so-called jazz enthusiasts appreciated their contributions while they were alive. Let's give more thought and time to the musicians who have given their all to Americans only original art form — Jazz. Give credit to the local jazz musicians who have remained here with an all out effort to cultivate this art — such as Count Steadwell, obscure composer - pianist who has never really been appreciated for his worth; the lyrical beauty of Dickie Myers' alto; the once dexterous ability of Vernon Biddle, who played piano like there was no tomorrow; the musicianship of flautist-altoist, Judson Watts; the solemn beauty in Curlee Glover's pianistic abilities; the melodic content of Frank Williams' bass, the unknown potentials of pianist-vibist John Lewis; the perfectionistic qualities of drummer, Leamon Reed; anld the new blood in this group, Sonny White, who has tremendous potential in becoming a major voice in jazz one day on trumpet.

There are only a few who want to pioneer jazz towards a greater stature. Guitarist Eddie Stewart is not to be forgotten for his simplicity of beauty, nor Minor Robinso, who should have been the composer of "Imagination." These are unknown contributors and there are thousands of them in every region of the country. But one day after fifteen or twenty years people finally begin to dig these cats and exclaim, "Where's he been all this time - in isolation?" The naive public is always astounded and will continue to be until they take note of what is happening within their midst. Support your music, for it is Negro in origin and it is cultural.

Will The Southern Negro Vote?

Despite the existence of the 15th amendment for almost 100 years, prohibiting the denial of the right to vote because of race, and in spite of Civil Rights Acts of 1957 and 1960, almost nothing has been accomplished in enfranchising the Negro in the Southern states. As an example, take the state of Mississippi.

At the present time probably less than 2% of the eligible Negro population in that state can vote freely. This disenfranchisement is accomplished through the poll tax and through the constitution interpretation literacy test. The poll tax must be paid for two years successively during the month of January in order to qualify the vote in an election.

However, not only must the poll tax requirement be met, but the prospective voter must also be able to interpret any one of the 280 odd sections of the Mississippi constitution that the voting registrar might present. Whites are asked to interpret a section such as the one that states that the Governor's term of office shall be four years; a prospective Negro voter is asked to interpret a very involved section such as one concerning apportionment of the state legislature.

It might appear that the Mississippi poll tax of only $2 is very small. However when one consults the 1960 census and discovers that the poll tax for a man and wife is equivalent to a day's pay for an average Negro family in Mississippi, then one realizes the actual difficulty in paying the poll tax. The median income for a Negro family in Mississippi is $1444, or about $4 per day to support the family which averages five persons. The median for white families is $4209 per year, and the average family is four persons.

Approximately 60% of the Negro population of Mississippi 21 years of age or over has an education of 6th grade or better. This means that the present Mansfield-Dirksen bill now pending in Congress would be extremely effective in enfranchising the Negro in the South.

Briefly, the Mansfield bill (Senate Bill 2750) will provide that a 6th grade education will be sufficient to satisfy any state literacy test in federal elections. The Mansfield bill was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, headed by Sen. Eastland of Mississippi, with the concurrent promise by Sen. Mansfield, the Senate majority leader, that he would offer Senate 2750 as an amendment to unrelated legislation unless the Judiciary Committee reported the bill within 60-90 days. The bill was introduced and referred to the Committee at the end of January. There are also pending other bills and joint resolutions dealing with literacy tests; however, the Mansfield bill seems the most likely to pass, commensurate with the maximum beneficial effect.

There are also pending various bills and resolutions to abolish the poll tax. One is House Joint Resolution 594 introduced by Mr. Gonzales of Texas. Briefly, this resolution provides for a constitutional amendment abolishing the poll tax as a prerequisite to voting in all elections, not merely federal ones. It is felt that this resolution is an excellent one, but that the constitutional amendment process is far too slow to achieve this much needed reform. For this reason a simple bill abolishing the poll tax is to be preferred.

A few months ago Reverend R. L. T. Smith, a prominent Negro citizen of Mississippi announced his candidacy for Congress, and became the first Negro candidate for major office in Mississippi in this century. He will oppose Congressman John Bell Williams, the most ardent racist in Congress and the spokesman for the White Citizens Councils. Rev. Smith's district, the 4th, is over 45% Negro. Rev. Smith is running so that he might help the condition of the Negro in Mississippi by publicizing the extreme economic suppression and the police state conditions in which the Mississippi Negro lives. The major point of his campaign is to bring public pressure to force Congress to enact legislation abolishing the poll tax and the literacy test, since the Negro population in Mississippi believe this is the only way to alleviate their plight.

The effect of a greatly increased Negro vote in the Southern states would result in a complete removal of the roadblocks that have been raised by Southern chairmen of Congressional Committees.

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NEWS RELEASE

GEORGIA LOUIS

Miss Georgia Louis, known as the "Princess of Spirituals" who hails from a small leg town in Alabama, in co-operaiton with Spiritual Records of N.Y. and Conn. has announced that she will offer 2 Recording Contracts. One for the state of N.Y. and one for the state of Conn. "This Sacred Song Contest is open to all," Miss Louis said, "that is soloists and Groups that wish to compete in a series of 4 Church programs that will be set up by my agency "The United Talent Associates". The contest for the New York State area, will be held at: Gospel Tabernacle Church of God, at 99 Lincoln Ave. in New Rochelle N.Y. Bishop Thomas Gibson is the Pastor and Miss Vera Johnson of Larchmont will be the secretary-moderator of the Concert Series. In the Conn. Area, the contest will be centered at: Mt. Moriah Baptist Church, 222 Barbour St. in the city of Hartford, Conn. Rev. Craig is the pastor and the secretary-moderator will be Miss Craig, the Pastor's daughter.

The funds or proceeds raised at these contests will be used for the needed building funds of the Churches.

Lending their services to promote the events for both areas, will be: Prof. William H. Collins of Savannah Georgia, and one of the Top Gospel Musicians in these areas, and Prof. Hugh E. Porter, arranger, Composer, Broadway Gospel Artist of New York, and Miss Georgia Louis herself.

Miss Louis expressed the desire, that since she would like to see all the young talent that wish to devote their careers to Sacred Singing, keep up the work and the Faith in Church Songs. "Just too many people are talking about artists that "fall out" and run to the Pop field, but no one ever does anything about it. This is just my little contribution to help the up-and coming talents, to let them know that somebody cares whether they sing Pop or Sacred Songs". Miss Louis is supported and backed on this thought by her agency, but all the expenses involved are being set forth by Miss Georgia Louis personally. Allinterested Talent in this field are urged to get in touch with the two Churches named, for details on entering the contests. Mr. Tom H. Hall of 1981 Main St. in Hartford, who is a member executive of the United Talent Associates of Hartford, will be working on the publicity and the organization of the Concerts. The Recording Contracts, are regular contracts for the recording of 2 sides of a 45 rpm record, that will be promised throughout the U.S.A.

Guest Darling Of The Week

In the picture above is our Guest Darling for this week. We though this would be a nice time to bring to our readers a beautiful Spring flower for your guessing. This young lady is a member of a well known Church in New Haven. If you know her name and address, please call and we will send you a free copy of the 12th edition of the "Open Gate". If you would like to be our Darling of the Week, and enter our First Anniversary, which will get underway September 1st, and a Beauty Queen will be selected on October 20th, 1962 for the Queen of the Open Gate News for 1963. The winner will be given a Prize of Fifty Dollars, Runner-up, Twenty-five Dollars and the Third place winner will also be given a prize. Call today Mr. Jeff Dyous, UN 5-1742 or P.O. Box 844, New Haven, Conn.

Society Type

The Open Gate News has set aside this page for our fine and society type citizens. If you are a bride or a bride-to-be please send your picture and article with only two ($2.00) dollars to the Open Gate Press, Inc. and get them in on time for our next issue.

If you are a society lover and you have or are going to take a trip, please contact The Open Gate at once. Mr. Jeff Dyous, Publisher, P.O. Box 844, New Haven, Conn. UN 5-1742.

Letter From John G. Feild

March 14, 1962

Mr. John M. Fernandez, President
Negro American Labor Council
of Connecticut
17 Woodside Path
West Haven 16, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Fernandez:

The Vice President's Office has referred your letter of February 22, to this Committee for reply. As I understand it, you wish to head a Citizens' Committee in Connecticut whose purpose would be to ascertain whether there are discriminatory employment practices in the areas of jurisdiction covered by the President's Committee on Equal Employment Opportunity and particularly subject to Executive Order 10925.

I think you should know that the President's Committee considered carefully whether to establish advisory Committees and determined that for the present such groups should not be created. In point of fact, the Committee abolished Regional Offices and Advisory Committees which had been established by the predecessor committee.

For your information, I am enclosing an Informaton Kit which includes material on the Committee compliance and educational programs. We believe that the compliance procedures which have been established and the information steaming from the Compliance Report Form, a copy of which is enclosed. (Standard Form 40A) will provide a more effective and accurate means of ascertaining the kind of information to which you refer than is likely to be gathered by an ad hoc committee with no official status.

I have asked our Information Officer to place your name on the

(Continued on Page 7)

Dixwell Project Lags

The Dixwell Avenue Renewal Project is far behind its time table, according to a survey recently made by the New Haven Register.

Although the project was scheduled to be well underway by the end of last year, there still has been no demolition work. Only about 55 of the proposed 300 parcels of land have been acquired by the city, and of the 500 families who will have to relocate, only 45 have done so at this point.

The project area is almost entirely Negro in population. Of the 45 family relocations, all but one have been non-white families. About one third have been relocated in public housing.

YOUNG SINGERS. Part of the children's chorus of the New Hope Baptist Church. The chorus is directed by Mrs. William Hall, right, wife of the church's pastor, Rev. William Hall.

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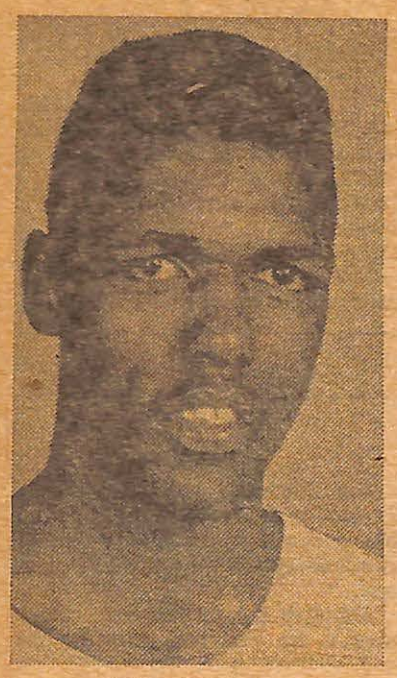
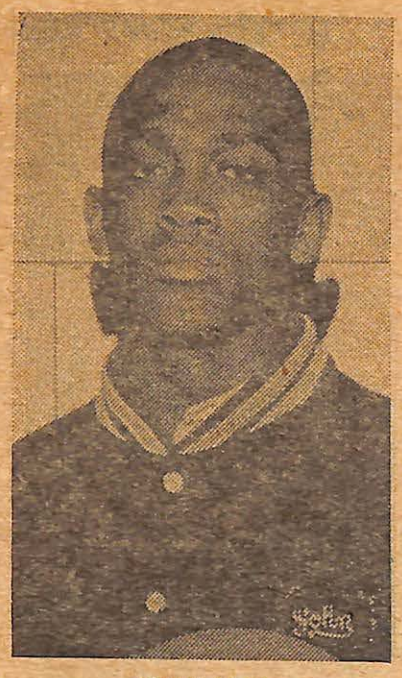
★ SPORTS PAGE ★

EDDIE GRIFFIN



MIKE BRANCH



JOHN LEE

PHIL BROOKS

BRUCE MADDOX

First Annual Negro All-State Basketball Team

The Open Gate is pleased to announce the first annual Negro All-State Basketball teams. We have selected a first and second team, with the help of our readers.

In presenting these all-star teams, we are not attempting to embarrass anyone or prove anything. We have great respect for Len Kostek, Joe Tonelli, Gene Reilly, and others who merit consideration as among the outstanding players of the year.

However, we feel that in a publication such as this, we are able to give fuller recognition to the abilities of some of our own Negro athletes, of whom we are so proud.

Thumbnail Sketches Of Players

EDDIE GRIFFIN: Dynamic 5-10 guard of Hartford Public, twice an all-state and CIAC and New England tournament selection; last year and this year the MVP in the New England Tournament, and this season in the CIAC; scored 488 points during the season, including 80 in the three games in Boston; perhaps the most spectacular and colorful player in the state; great passer, dribbler, and shooter; could make any college team in the country; also an outstanding halfback on the football team.

JOHNNY LEE: Captain of the Weaver team, a 6-1 sharpshooter who likes to pass off as well as shoot; broke into the lineup for a few games as a freshman; is a first cousin of Ed Griffin; a three-sport star, he plays quarterback on the football team and is a member of the baseball squad.

MIKE BRANCH: Captain at Hillhouse and a much-respected team leader, all-state and all-CIAC Tournament; stands 6-3 but jumps like he's 6-6; a three-year starter for the Academics and improved each season; averaged over 18 points a game this year; deadly around the basket; tabbed as a great college prospect.

BRUCE MADDOX: Six footer who was moved from guard to forward this season because of lack of height at Hartford Public; was the best "sixth-man" in the state last year; injury kept him out of first 13 games but gradually rounded into form; this season developed corner shot to go with his new position up front.

PHIL BROOKS: Captain at Wilbur Cross; this year made Register All-State after emerging from shadow of great Dave Hicks; stands 6-3 and shows fine poise; great on a drive and on the circle one hander; good defense and rebounding.

BOB BROWN: The Wilby of Waterbury flash was the leading scorer this past season in the Naugatuck Valley; hit over 1,000 points in three seasons; was at Crosby as freshman but transferred when city was redistricted; an outstanding shooter inside and out. Stands 6-3.

FRANK CARR: Captain elect of next year's Hillhouse team; a natural athlete who also plays football and baseball; stands 6-2; good outside jump shot; tends to develop hot streaks.

GEORGE JACKSON: 6-5 pivotman on Wilbur Cross; deadly from the corners and on the layup-drive; can "dunk" the ball in the basket with ease.

EARL JACKSON: 6-5 center on Plainville; led his club to finals of Class B Tournament, where the team lost its only game of the season; one of the best rebounders and defensive players in the state; scored 418 points this season and grabbed 470 rebounds in 25 games.

DOUG WARDLAW: The Wilbur Cross sophomore is the only player not a senior to be honored on the Negro All-State teams; a classy ballplayer with a great future; handles the ball with assurance and uses a pretty, arching outside one-hand shot; winner of Coogan award in second Cross-Hillhouse game.

HONORABLE MENTION: In addition to the above-named, the Open Gate lists the following players who we feel deserve honorable mention: Billy Jones (Hartford Pulbic); Bill Phaenious (Hillhouse); Bob Ricks (Weaver); Doug Joiner (Wilbur Cross); Jake Moore (Ansonia); Jim Monroe (Norwalk); Nate Williams (West Haven); Bruce Hargette, (Bridgeport Central).

FIRST TEAM	SECOND TEAM
F—Phil Brooks, Wilbur Cross	F—Earl Jackson, Plainville
F—Bruce Maddox, Hartford Public	F—Frank Carr, Hillhouse
C—Mike Branch, Hillhouse	C—George Jackson, Wilbur Cross
G—Eddie Griffin, Hartford Public	G—Doug Wardlaw, Wilbur Cross
G—John Lee, Weaver	G—Bob Brown, Wilby

High School Coaches To Be Honored

Coaches Sam Bender of Hillhouse and Sal Verderame of Wilbur Cross will be honored by Club Thirty at a special banquet at its clubroom at 180 Shelton Ave. on Saturday, April 28.

Frank Williams, program director of the Dixwell Community House, will be the main speaker. Trophies will be presented to the most valuable players of each team in the Community House basketball program.

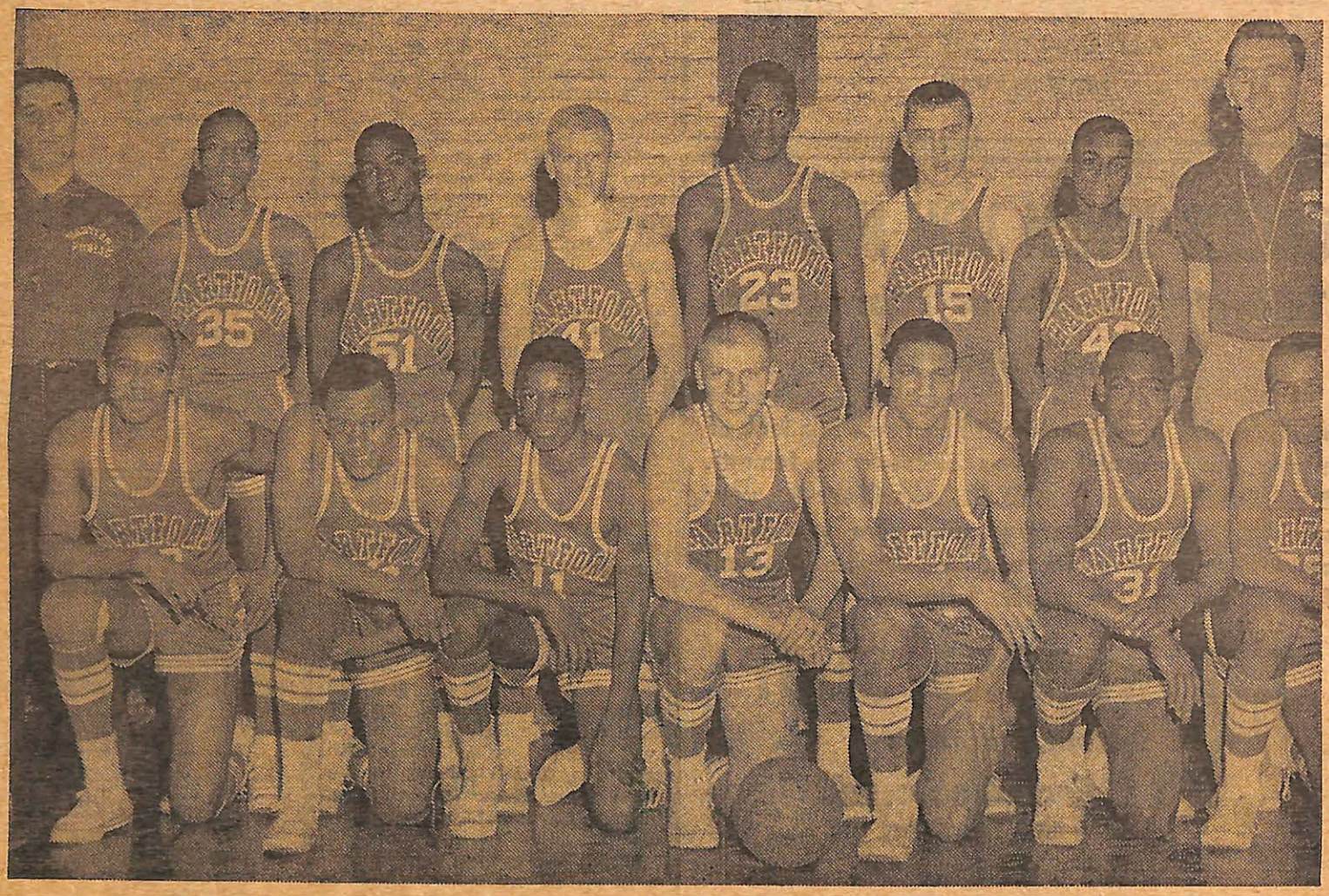
According to banquet chairman, Robert Williams, the two coaches will be honored in acknowledgement of their "invaluable contributions and achievements in our high school sports" and to pay tribute to "those personal attributes of heart, spirit, and good sportsmanship that make them admired and an inspiration to our future basketball stars."

Hartford Champs Honored

The Hartford Public basketball team, CIAC and New England Tournament champions, was honored on April 8 at the plush Statler Hilton Hotel in Hartford. The dinner was held in the fashionable Terrace Room.

In addition to Public, the team from Bulkeley High was honored at the same affair. Bulkeley was runner-up to Public in the two tournaments.

The banquet was ordered by the Hartford City Council.



HARTFORD PUBLIC CHAMPS. The Hartford Public Owls, CIAC and New England Tournament Champions, the latter for the second year in a row. Front row, left to right, Bill Turner, Cliff Thornton, John Joiner, Len Kostek (captain), Eddie Griffin, Bruce Maddox and Bill Jones. Back row, Assistant coach Joe Cerone, Paul Copes, Charles Womack, Steve Beaulieu, Ron Thompson, Pete Odlum, Jeff Banks, and coach Joe Kubachka.

THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Equal Employment Opportunity—Government Contract Employment

From the start, the Committee has sought to build a new degree of integrity into its processes and procedures as the basis for generating confidence in the contract compliance program on the part of the government officials, contractors and the general public. As an interdepartmental committee, we serve in a coordinating, reviewing and directing capacity rather than as an action agency, but we have power greatly exceeding that of previous committees which is increasingly being brought to bear.

The complaint procedure necessarily is basic to the contract compliance program, but in the long run the complaint volume should diminist as our new program of affirmative action grows in effectiveness. (in our first nine months of operation we received over 600 complaints of which nearly half have been resolved. After elimination of those in which the Committee had no jurisdiction or which were dismissed because the complainant failed to pursue further, discrimination was found and corrected in 127 cases, while 60

(Continued on Page 8)

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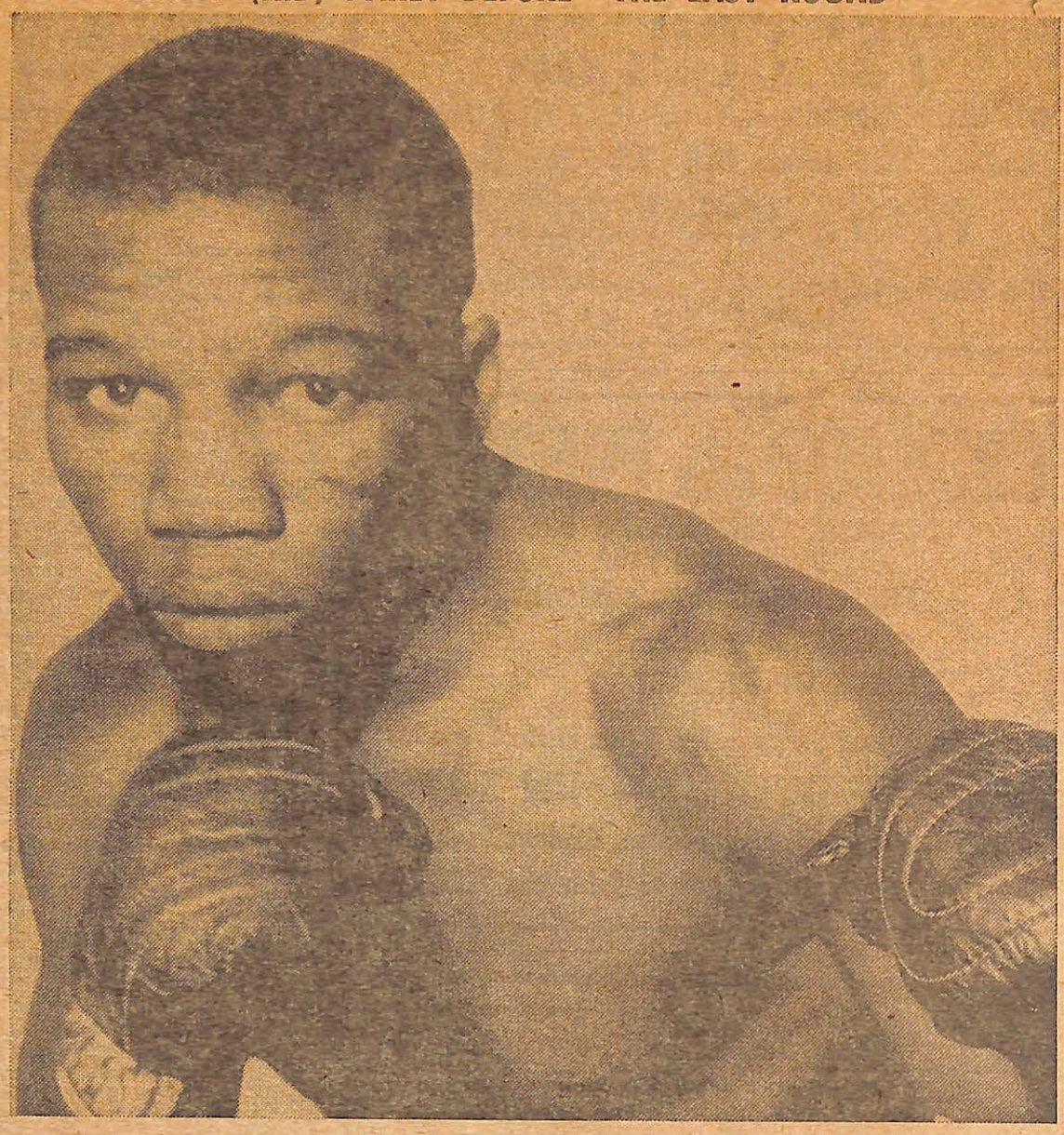
LOU

BENNY (KID) PARET BEFORE "THE LAST ROUND"



The ring death of Cuban prizefighter Benny (Kid) Paret has sparked new agitation for the abolishment or modification of the sport and business known as boxing.

Paret died on April 3rd at 1:55 a.m. after a 10 day battle for life following his knockout at the hands of Emile Griffith, in the 12th round of their welterweight championship bout at New York's Madison Square Garden.

The Kid never regained consciousness, although he underwent almost immediate surgery to relieve pressure on his brain. Surgeons inserted a tube into his throat to aid his breathing. He began to make slight progress until he contracted pneumonia the day before he died.

He leaves a 2½ year old son, Benny Jr., and his wife, Lucy. Mrs. Paret had kept an almost constant watch at her husband's bedside, but was not with him the moment he died. The Kid's mother, Mrs. Maximo Crespo, a Roman Catholic priest, and the fighter's manager, Manuel Alfaro were with him when he expired.

Paret died at the age of 24, and became the first boxing champion to die as the result of injuries suffered in a championship fight. Two others had died after such fights, but they were challengers.

As a result of the incident, the State of New York voted a legislative committee $25,000 to investigate boxing and determine whether it should be outlawed. Meanwhile, throughout the nation there are legal moves calling for abolition of boxing. Even in Puerto Rico a bill banning boxing was introduced.

A sparring partner of Paret's, Leo Johnson, who taught The Kid what little English he knew, said "The only thing that surprises me is that he lasted as long as he did. I know Gene Fullmer, and I consider him the roughest fighter in the ring today. After you fight him, you need six months to get right again. He knocked Benny out in the tenth round. Three and a half months later, Benny [illegible] defending his title against Griffith."

Johnson said, "Benny needed a rest. Many times he needed a rest, but they wouldn't give it to him." He defended referee Ruby Goldstein. "He stopped the bout soon enough. The tragedy is that somebody didn't stop Benny before he ever got to the ring."

Catholic Schools In New Orleans To Desegregate

Catholic parochial schools in New Orleans, La., have been ordered desegregated this fall by Archbishop Joseph Francis Rummel. The archdiocesan school system takes in 75,000 students.

The statement, issued March 27, said: "Effective at the time of registration for the 1962-63 school session, all Catholic children may apply for admission to the Catholic schools of the archdiocese according to accepted educational standards.

When public schools in New Orleans were desegregated in the fall of 1960, near-riot incidents took place.

There are currently 7,254 Negroes in the archdiocese's 15 elementary schools, and another 1,724 in the three Negro high schools.

TEAM WINS CHAMPIONSHIP

The Travellers, a well-known valley Basketball Team, recently was presented with the Conn. AAU Championship Trophy. Its captain, who received the Trophy, is a well-known former Quinnipiac College basketball star, Billy Byrd. Bill played College ball with popular "Porky" Viera at Quinnipiac. In Billy's freshman year at Quinnipiac, he was named to the all-tournament team. Other trophies that he and his team have won rae: Conn. AAU, 1961, CIBT 2nd Pl., 1961, and Torrington YMCA County Tournament - 2nd place and best sports.

Letter

(Continued from Page 5)

mailing list so that you will receive copies of progress reports issued by this Committee. I hope that your interest in the work of the Committee will not abate and that you will remain sensitive to the needs and functions of the Committee's program.

With all best wishes.

Very truly yours,
John G. Feild
Executive Director

New Haven

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(Continued from Page 7)

were dismissed on findings of no discrimination.)

The real impact of the program is just beginnng to be felt as the affirmative type programs developed in the first nine months move into operation. These include:

Development of capacity in agencies

While major contracting agencies have assigned full-time personnel to administer the program, it early became apparent that most such personnel lacked the necessary qualifications, training and experience to handle the job effectively. To remedy that situation, the Committee, in cooperation with some of the agencies, has developed a training program which, coupled with a recruitment drive for experienced intergroup relations experts, will provide skilled specialists for effective administration. (The Department of Defense, particularly the Air Force, has set the pace in this operation. It is anticipated that, within a reasonable time, Defense and its subordinate agencies will have trained, skilled people handling the equal opportunity program throughout its vast operation.)

Relationship with contractors

The Committee has sought to get contractors to understand that we are serious and sincere in our intention to achieve the goals of the Executive Order. While we will use the sanctions provided when and if necessary, we prefer to work in a cooperative, constructive, consultative role for development of affirmative programs. Specific examples of solid progress can be cited, but, in addition to those specific gains resulting from complaint situations, there is unpublicized, quiet progress being made in all types of employment, a development in which the mere existence of the Committee has served as catalyst.

Compliance reporting system

The compliance reporting system is now ready for operation and undoubtedly will be the most important tool ever developed in the field of equal employment opportunity. Government contractors holding contracts for $50,000 or more and employing 50 or more employees will be required to file a report showing their manpower profile of minority group employment. These reports will be used by the agencies and the Committee to effectively implement equal employment policies. (Note: While all contractors with $10,000 or more in contracts are within Committee jurisdiction, the $50,000-and-50-employees standard is used for compliance reporting in order to keep the flow of reports at such a volume that the information obtained can be processed and used effectively.) It is estimated that 40-50 thousand prime contractors and 1st tier sub-contractors will be covered. They are estimated to employ 17½ million workers. A separate compliance reporting system for construction and utilities will be developed in the near future.

Progress program

Soon after its first meeting, the Committee launched a program for developing affirmative action on the part of major government contractors. A goal was set for development of such programs, called Plans for Progress, with the 50 largest Defense contractors. By the end of 1961, 21 of the top 50 had signed their individually-developed Plans for Progress, and negotiations were underway with more than 30 additional companies. Plan for Progress companies will make regular reports to the Committee on the status of minority group employment. (Lockheed Corporation, the first signer of a Plan, reported in December that in the five divisions covered by the six-month report, Negro employees increased by 26% while overall employment went up 7½%. In professional and administrative positions, Negro employment increased by 39% and in clerical positions by 52%.) Once the development of Plans for Progress with the top 50 is completed, we anticipate major contracting agencies taking over the program and developing similar affirmative programs with literally thousands of government contractors.

COOLEY CHEVROLET'S 42nd Anniversary SALE

In celebration of this great event and in appreciation of your continued support we have set aside this month for the most sensational New and Used Car Sale ever staged in the Greater New Haven Area.

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59	Pontiac 4 dr., a real cream puff	1395
59	Pontiac 4 dr., hardtop, loaded	1695
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